

REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated September 30, 2005, has been received, and its contents carefully noted.

The rejection of claims 1-9 as anticipated by Hahnewald is respectfully traversed for the reason that the toaster defined in the pending claims, and particularly in parent claim 1, is not disclosed in the applied reference.

The present invention, as defined in claim 1, defines a toaster that includes a case and a base that is removably connectable to the case and faces an opening at the lower part of the case. According to the invention, as defined in claim 1, the base is completely removable from the case and those two components have respective elements that interact when the case is disposed on the base, such that withdrawal of the case from the base suppresses the interaction to prevent the supply of electric power to the heating elements.

Simply stated, the toaster disclosed in the applied reference does not include a base that is removably connected to a case.

What the reference does disclose is a toaster having a crumb tray that is slidably insertable into the toaster housing (Specification, column 6, lines 43-44 and column 7, lines 53-56).

There is absolutely no disclosure in this reference of a base that is removable from a case.

Operation of the toaster disclosed in the applied reference is prevented until the crumb tray has been inserted into the toaster housing to an end position.

Since the rejection did not include any explanation of the reasons why the toaster in the disclosed applied reference is considered to anticipate the application claims, applicant can only guess that the slidable crumb tray of the reference is being treated as corresponding to the base defined in the application claims.

Assuming this to be the case, it is submitted that it is simply not possible to equate a sliding crumb tray, which is installed within a toaster housing, to a base on which the case of a toaster is mounted.

The usual and ordinary meanings of the names of these components, as well as the structures identified by those terms in the present Specification and the reference, demonstrate the impossibility of equating a crumb tray to a base.

Specifically, the reference clearly discloses that the crumb tray is an article that is movable horizontally into and out of a toaster housing and clearly does not support any part of the toaster. In contrast, the base disclosed and

claimed in the present application, is a component that supports the toaster case, it being the toaster case that contains the toasting chamber and the toaster heating elements.

Thus, simply stated, whereas claim 1 defines a toaster having a base that is removably connected to the case, the applied reference does not disclose such a base.

Thus, all of the claims define patentably over the applied reference by their recitations relating to "a base removably connected to said case".

At least claims 2, 3 and 6 further distinguish over the applied reference by their specific recitation that the case is mounted on the base. At least claims 4-9 define structural features of the base that are not possessed by the crumb tray of the reference.

New claim 10 similarly distinguishes patentably over the applied reference by its specific recitation that the case rests on the base when the base is connected to the case, while new claim 11 further distinguishes over the applied reference by its recitation of the manner in which the base and the case are connected together.

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the prior art rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, that claims

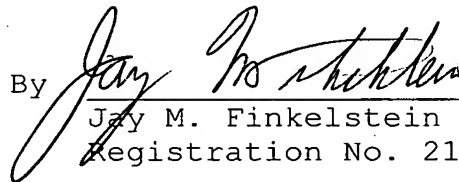
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1-11 be allowed and that the Application be found in allowable condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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